

Re: In support of Bill 4, banning cell phone use in cars

Aloha - I am writing to express my support for Bill #4. Drivers talking on cell phones, playing video games, or texting, are a liability to themselves and everyone around them. We have all seen the haphazard steering, slow reaction time, diverted attention, and frequent near-misses that regularly attend drivers who are on the phone or otherwise fiddling with handheld devices. It is only a matter of time before something really tragic happens.

It is a scientific fact that a driver on the phone is distracted and has a slower reaction time to events in the road that require his or her attention. Although this difference is only a matter of seconds, at road speed this translates into dozens of feet, and is critical when it comes to breaking or altering course quickly enough to avert a collision.

I urge you to pass this bill, and also that you encourage HPD to carry out a vigorous enforcement policy from the get-go so that drivers do not get the impression that law enforcement does not take this law seriously. I understand HPDs concerns about enforcement, but seriously, we know when someone is driving while talking on the phone - it's a pretty flagrant thing to observe - you can usually tell just by the way the driver is driving, let alone the hand pressed to the ear, and an easy call to make.

Mahalo for your attention and action on this matter.

Olwen Huxley
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